

## Appendix I. Description of Existing State Marine Protected Areas

For descriptions of existing MPAs, please consult <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa/descriptions.html>.

The Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) requires an analysis of the state's current MPAs, based on the preferred siting alternative for a proposed statewide network of MPAs. The analysis shall include "recommendations as to whether any specific MPAs should be consolidated, expanded, abolished, reclassified, or managed differently so that, taken as a group, the MPAs best achieve the goals" of the MLPA and conform to MLPA guidelines.

The Department of Fish and Game has assembled basic descriptions and analyses of existing MPAs at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa/descriptions.html>. Since a preferred siting alternative has not yet been developed, these analyses of existing MPAs are preliminary and are intended as a starting point for the more detailed analyses called for in the MLPA. Each characterization contains a general description of the habitats and depth range, a summary of existing regulations, the primary objectives for establishing the MPA, a summary of relevant research and monitoring within the MPA, and relevant scientific literature citations.

Also included is a preliminary assessment of the overall effectiveness of each MPA. This preliminary assessment is based on a variety of criteria, including baseline monitoring studies, comparisons of factors such as species diversity and density, individual animal sizes, the ability to provide research, educational, and non-extractive recreational opportunities, and the ability of the regulations to be enforced. One problem in evaluating MPA effectiveness for many existing MPAs is the lack of clearly defined goals when they were established. Many of the estuarine MPAs do not have a preliminary assessment of overall effectiveness due to a current lack of available information.

A subsequent, more detailed, evaluation of each MPA will take place as the MLPA Initiative process focuses on individual regions and begins to develop and evaluate options for networks of MPAs for each region. Because one of the requirements of the MLPA is to "encompass a representative variety of marine habitat types and communities, across a range of depths and environmental communities", in the form of marine life refuges (defined as no-take areas in the act and now known as state marine reserves), the subsequent evaluations must consider the need for changing existing MPAs or adding new ones in order to meet this and other requirements of the MLPA.

The literature cited in these preliminary evaluations includes those studies found as of December 2004, and is intended to be an initial review. The literature citations are organized into four categories and listed by reference number from the literature cited section of this report:

1. Published references which relate to the effectiveness of the particular MPA,
2. Published references which relate to the use of the particular MPA as a site for research,
3. Unpublished references which relate to the effectiveness of the particular MPA, and

4. Unpublished references which relate to the use of the particular MPA as a site for research.

If no citations are listed in the description of an MPA, none could be found for that MPA. New references may be added to this report as they become available. At the end of this report is a general list of published and unpublished references that relate to MPAs, including theoretical studies of MPA design where the work was not specifically conducted within or adjacent to MPAs off California. More references are available on the Department of Fish and Game's website at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa>.

The MPAs evaluated at the MLPA web site are organized geographically from north to south by county, as follows:

***Humboldt County***

- Punta Gorda State Marine Reserve

***Mendocino County***

- MacKerricher State Marine Conservation Area
- Point Cabrillo State Marine Conservation Area
- Russian Gulch State Marine Conservation Area
- Van Damme State Marine Conservation Area
- Manchester and Arena Rock State Marine Conservation Area

***Sonoma County***

- Del Mar Landing State Marine Park
- Salt Point State Marine Conservation Area
- Gerstle Cove State Marine Conservation Area
- Fort Ross State Marine Conservation Area
- Sonoma Coast State Marine Conservation Area
- Bodega State Marine Reserve

***Napa County***

- Fagan Marsh State Marine Park

***Marin County***

- Tomales Bay State Marine Park
- Point Reyes Headlands State Marine Conservation Area
- Estero de Limantour State Marine Conservation Area
- Duxbury Reef State Marine Conservation Area
- Corte Madera Marsh State Marine Park
- Marin Islands State Marine Park

***San Francisco County***

- Farallon Islands State Marine Conservation Area

***Solano County***

- Peytonia Slough State Marine Park

**Alameda County**

- Albany Mudflats State Marine Park
- Robert W. Crown State Marine Conservation Area

**San Mateo County**

- Redwood Shores State Marine Park
- Bair Island State Marine Park
- James V. Fitzgerald State Marine Park

**Monterey County**

- Elkhorn Slough State Marine Reserve
- Hopkins State Marine Reserve
- Pacific Grove State Marine Conservation Area
- Carmel Bay State Marine Conservation Area
- Point Lobos State Marine Reserve
- Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Marine Conservation Area
- Big Creek State Marine Reserve

**San Luis Obispo County**

- Atascadero Beach State Marine Conservation Area
- Morro Beach State Marine Conservation Area
- Pismo State Marine Conservation Area
- Pismo-Oceano Beach State Marine Conservation Area

**Santa Barbara County**

- Vandenberg State Marine Reserve
- Richardson Rock State Marine Reserve (San Miguel Island)
- Judith Rock State Marine Reserve (San Miguel Island)
- Harris Point State Marine Reserve (San Miguel Island)
- South Point State Marine Reserve (Santa Rosa Island)
- Carrington Point State Marine Reserve (Santa Rosa Island)
- Skunk Point State Marine Reserve (Santa Rosa Island)
- Painted Cave State Marine Conservation Area (Santa Cruz Island)
- Gull Island State Marine Reserve (Santa Cruz Island)
- Scorpion State Marine Reserve (Santa Cruz Island)
- Refugio State Marine Conservation Area
- Goleta Slough State Marine Park
- Santa Barbara Island State Marine Reserve

**Ventura County**

- Anacapa State Marine Reserve
- Anacapa State Marine Conservation Area
- Big Sycamore Canyon State Marine Reserve

**Los Angeles County**

- Abalone Cove State Marine Park
- Point Fermin State Marine Park
- Catalina Marine Science Center State Marine Reserve

- Farnsworth Bank State Marine Conservation Area
- Lover's Cove State Marine Conservation Area

### ***Orange County***

- Bolsa Chica State Marine Park
- Upper Newport Bay State Marine Park
- Robert E. Badham State Marine Park
- Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area
- Irvine Coast State Marine Park
- Laguna Beach State Marine Park
- Heisler Park State Marine Reserve
- South Laguna Beach State Marine Park
- Niguel State Marine Park
- Dana Point State Marine Park
- Doheny State Marine Park
- Doheny State Marine Conservation Area

### ***San Diego County***

- Buena Vista Lagoon State Marine Park
- Agua Hedionda Lagoon State Marine Reserve
- Batiquitos Lagoon State Marine Park
- Encinitas State Marine Conservation Area
- Cardiff and San Elijo State Marine Conservation Area
- San Elijo Lagoon State Marine Park
- San Dieguito Lagoon State Marine Park
- San Diego-Scripps State Marine Conservation Area
- La Jolla State Marine Conservation Area
- Mia J. Tegner State Marine Conservation Area